

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 FEA-02 AEC-11 AID-05 CEA-02

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5489

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 15750

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, TECH, ENRG, GW, UR

SUBJECT: SCHMIDT VISIT TO USSR AND NUCLEAR POWER
PLANT PROJECT

REF: A. BONN 15210; B. BONN 14933 (NOTAL)

C. BONN 14709 (NOTAL) D. OECD PARIS 22528

1. AN FRG ECONOMICS MINISTRY OFFICIAL CONFIRMED PRESS
REPORTS THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT WILL TRAVEL TO THE
USSR FOR MEETINGS WITH THE SOVIET LEADERS ON
OCTOBER 28. HE ALSO CONFIRMED REPORTS THAT THE SOVIETS
AND GERMANS ARE INTERESTED IN SIGNING AN AGREEMENT OVER
DELIVERY OF THE FRG NUCLEAR POWER PLANT TO THE USSR
DURING THE VISIT. HENCE THE GERMAN URGENCY IN
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REQUESTING COCOM APPROVAL (REFTEL D).

2. NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE FRG AND THE USSR ON THE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT ARE STILL UNDERWAY IN HAMBURG. THE GERMAN NEGOTIATING TEAM IS LED BY KELTSCH OF PREUSSENELCTRIK AND CHAIRMAN OF THE FRG/USSR JOINT COMMISSION WORKING GROUP ON ENERGY (BONN A-345 OF JULY 8, 1974). THE SOVIET NEGOTIATOR IS KALINOV (PHOENTIC) A STATE SECRETARY IN THE USSR FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES, THE SOVIETS HAVE RAISED, AS WHAT APPEARS TO BE-IN GERMAN EYES) A NEGOTIATING TACTIC, A NUMBER OF CONTRADICTORY ISSUES DURING THE SESSIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE SOVIETS APPARENTLY SUGGESTED ROUTING THE TRANSMISSION LINE THROUGH MAGDEBURG IN THE GDR, ALTHOUGH THE GERMANS DO NOT SEE THIS AS A SERIOUS SUGGESTION. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH WE ARE UNABLE TO CONFIRM IT, IT APPEARS AS IF THE NEGOTIATIONS DURING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23 WERE PRIMARILY COMMERCIAL IN NATURE AND INVOLVED REPRESENTATIVES OF KRAFTWERKUNION WHILE THE NEGOTIATIONS TAKING PLACE THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 30 ARE FOCUSSED ON MORE GOVERNMENTAL AND TECHNICAL DETAILS SUCH AS TRANSPORT OF THE ELECTRICITY, ETC.

3. IN VIEW OF THE CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS IN HAMBURG, THE FRG HAS YET TO RESPOND TO THE NOWIKOW LETTER (SEE BONN 13837) WHICH, WHILE NOTING THAT THE GDR AND POLAND HAD AGREED TO THE TRANSMITTING OF THEIR TERRITORY OF THE ELECTRICAL POWER LINES, ALSO RAISED CERTAIN "TECHNICAL ISSUES" CONCERNING THE ROUTE THE LINE IS TO TAKE. THE EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN NAVIKOW AND FRIDERICH'S IS TO COVER GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT ON INCLUDING BERLIN. COMMENT. IN VIEW OF CURRENT STATUS OF DISCUSSIONS, IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT FRG ECONOMICS MINISTER FRIDERICH'S WILL DISCUSS THIS PROJECT FURTHER DURING HIS TRIP TO MOSCOW ON OCTOBER 15 FOR THE BIENNIAL MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMISSION.

4. WE WERE ALSO TOLD THAT THE GERMANS ARE NO LONGER CONSIDERING DISCUSSING THE POWER PLANT PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SWING CREDIT NEGOTIATIONS
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SINCE THE FRG WANTS TO KEEP THE DISCUSSION WITH SOVIETS AS A PURELY BILATERAL ISSUE.
HILLENBRAND

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